

The Honorable Michael K. Powell
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Powell:

As a customer of DIRECTV, I am writing to urge you to support the pending merger of EchoStar and HUGHES, the parent company of DIRECTV. I believe the merger will improve the service I can receive.

As a customer of DIRECTV, I have been totally dis-satisfied with any and all services that were provided by DIRECTV. The customer service is practically non-existent, and no one answers any e-mail complaints made.

The combined company will hopefully be a much competent option to cable operators by being able to offer me options of available channels.

I currently have broadband access to the Internet, and hope that the new company will stay out of the broadband business. DIRECTV is already incompetent in one service, I certainly don't need any more headaches with another service from them.

I appreciate your consideration of my views.

Sincerely,

Unsal Sunay
121 Fawn Place
Marietta, GA 30062

ly as a real alternative to cable.

For my customers who do enjoy broadband access to the Internet via DSL and cable modem, this merger will result in increased competition in the broadband market, because the new company will be able to provide an affordable high-speed Internet access service via satellite. This would help drive down prices of the DSL and cable providers. For those living beyond the reach of cable and DSL wires, the new company may be their only chance of getting an affordable high-speed Internet service.

My customers chose satellite TV over cable because of its superior customer service, better quality picture and sound, and the abundance of channel options. However, cable companies now offer digital cable in millions of homes. This has negated the past advantages of satellite over cable TV and has begun to hurt DIRECTV's and EchoStar's ability to compete. The new company will have the resources, spectrum and satellites necessary to offer a competitive satellite TV product while improving customer service and keeping cable prices in check.

High Definition Television (HDTV) was supposed to be available to the American public today, but consumers are still waiting for broadcasters and cable operators to provide the service. HUGHES and EchoStar have pledged to use some

of the spectrum made available by their merger to increase their HDTV channel offerings, to at least twelve HDTV channels. I am excited because greater availability of HDTV programming will translate into more sales opportunities for my HDTV televisions and related products.

DIRECTV will not be able to compete effectively with the cable companies in the future unless it has the ability to match their technological innovations. The merger will allow the new company to provide HDTV, Interactive TV, and near video-on-demand. The other benefits outlined above are important, but these are the most important ones for me. Please support the EchoStar-HUGHES merger, and help bring these advanced television services to consumers sooner rather than later.

Sincerely,

BRIAN BARNES
11409 CAROLINA PLACE PKWY
PINEVILLE, NC 28134